

CLAIMS

1. A method for measurement of low molecular soluble CD14 proteins separately in a body fluid.
2. The method for measurement according to claim 1, comprising steps of (A) to (C):
 - (A) measuring the total amount of soluble CD14 proteins,
 - (B) measuring the amount of high molecular soluble CD14 proteins by a system for specifically measuring high molecular soluble CD14 proteins, and
 - (C) subtracting the amount of high molecular soluble CD14 proteins from the total amount of soluble CD14 proteins.
3. The method for measurement according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the low molecular soluble CD14 protein is a soluble CD14 36 kDa protein.
4. A method for diagnosing sepsis, comprising measuring a low molecular soluble CD14 protein in a body fluid.
5. An antibody that binds specifically to a high

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molecular soluble CD14 protein but does not bind to no low molecular soluble CD14 protein.

6. The antibody according to claim 5, wherein the antibody binds to any one of C-terminal 41 amino acid portions in a full length soluble CD14 protein consisting of the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID No. 1.

7. The antibody according to claim 5, wherein any one of the C-terminal 41 amino acid portions is an amino acid sequence of from the 316th to the 328th positions or an amino acid sequence of from the 331st to the 345th positions of the sequence described in SEQ ID No.1.

8. The antibody according to claim 5, wherein the high molecular soluble CD14 protein is a soluble CD14 49 kDa protein and/or a soluble CD14 55 kDa protein, and wherein the low molecular soluble CD14 protein is a soluble CD14 36 kDa protein.

9. An antibody that is produced by Accession No. FERM BP-7295 or Accession No. FERM BP-7296 of hybridoma.

10. A polypeptide comprising consecutive 6 to 41 amino

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acids in 41 amino acids sequence of from the 316th to the 356th in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID No. 1.

11. A hybridoma that produces the antibody according to any one of claims 5 to 9.

12. The hybridoma according to claim 11, that is Accession No. FERMBP-7295 or Accession No. FERM BP-7296

13. A method for specifically determining the quality or quantity of a high molecular soluble CD14 protein, comprising using at least one antibody as claimed in any one of claims 5 to 9.

14. The method for measurement according to claim 2, wherein the step (B) of measuring the amount of high molecular soluble CD14 proteins comprises a method for specifically determining the quantity of the high molecular soluble CD14 protein according to claim 12.

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